



MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

Caudill College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

School of Creative Arts

Department of Music, Theatre & Dance

Justice Festival

PROGRAM

Fanfare for the Green and Gold

Joshua Hobbs
(b. 1990)

Conducted by Kody Jernigan, MSU Graduate Assistant

Soundings

Brian Balmages
(b. 1975)

Morehead State University Trumpet Ensemble
Professor Greg Wing, Director

Mirages for euphonium, tuba, and recording

Ben McMillian
(b. 1984)

- I. The Desert Crossing
- II. Palaces of Sand and Stone
- III. Spirit of the Desert Winds

Stacy Baker, tuba
Derek Easterling, euphonium

I'm a Kentuckian

Don Rogers
(b. 1968)

You've got to be carefully taught *from* South Pacific

Richard Rogers
(1902-1979)

Kentucky Center for Traditional Music Ensemble
Megan Jill Ann Gregory, guitar and vocals
Anabel Peterman, bass and vocals
Joshua Loiacono, fiddle and vocals

A Strange Wayfarer for bass trombone and looping station (2020)

William Timmons
(b. 1985)

Russ Zokaites, bass trombone

Sonata in E Minor for Piano

Florence Price
(1887-1953)

II. Andante

William A. Murphy, piano

I Dream a World

André J. Thomas
(b. 1952)

Chamber Singers
Reagan Cox, piano

I'll Make the Difference

Moses Hogan
(1957-2003)

Katie Webb, soprano | Anna-Wray Grayson, mezzo soprano
Concert Choir
William A. Murphy, piano
Dr. Greg Detweiler, Director

Program notes

Fanfare for the Green and Gold

Fanfare for the Green and Gold was written to commemorate several important occasions of the composer's life, namely his graduation from the Master's program at the University of South Florida, and his charge to write a fanfare for the 2016 Festival of Winds Honor Band for high school students. The fanfare was premiered by the festival's 48-player strong trumpet ensemble. Soundings Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer and conductor. His music has been performed throughout the world with commissions ranging from elementary schools to professional orchestras. World premieres include prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. His music was also performed as part of the 2013 Presidential Inaugural Prayer Service, which was attended by both President Obama and Vice President Biden. His composition Soundings was written for the 2015 International Trumpet Guild.

-Program notes provided by Professor Greg Wing

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Mirages

"You can't fight the desert...you have to ride with it." – Louis L'Amour I've always been fascinated by deserts; the stark, almost alien landscapes, the extremely diverse and efficient ecosystems, the mystic, spiritual effect of being in the vast expanses of silent nature. Recently I travelled from the Pacific Northwest into the deserts of Nevada and Utah. While neither are the typical Hollywood deserts of endless sand dunes, they hold their own magic. Mirages are a part of that magic. I watched them rise and fall as I drove by, imagination blending with the illusions to create hidden cities. As with many of my works, I didn't start out with a concrete concept, but as the scales and modes started to come through, desert imagery continually flowed through my mind's eye. The piece consists of three sections, each fading and evaporating like mirages. Stylistically there are heavy elements of rock and jazz, as well as the percussion flavors of the Middle East, India, and Central America.

-Program notes provided by Dr. Stacy Baker

I'm a Kentuckian

This song appears on Don Rogers's 2018 album "Winetown," and celebrates traditions of empathy and generosity in the Commonwealth.

You've Got to be Carefully Taught

Originally part of the controversial 1949 musical South Pacific, by Rodgers and Hammerstein, this song emphasizes the idea that discrimination is not innate.

A Strange Wayfarer

Much like early Appalachian history, the exact origins of A Wayfaring Stranger are routed in immigration and hardship. The tune likely came into existence around the American Revolution using altered melodies of English, Scottish, and Irish descent. The tune tells of environmental difficulties associated with early Appalachian life.

I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger, A-trav'in' through this world of woe, But there's no sickness, toil or danger, In that bright world to which I go.

This tune has been used as an anthem for those trying to find a home. In A Strange Wayfarer, Timmons is exploring both the internal and external challenges of being a newcomer. All of us have experienced what it's like to perceive a difference with those around us, which can lead to unsettled feelings.

In this setting, Timmons uses a repetitive motif which he labels, "I Feel Strange." As the piece progresses through sections, we hear the motif morphing into the iconic melody. However, something is off; the harmony, rhythm, and melody are close, but not perfect. The result of this resilient attempt brings on a heroic mindset that is here to stay.

-Program notes provided by Dr. Russ Zokaites

Sonata in E minor for Piano

Hailing from Little Rock, AR, Florence B. Price is considered to be the first African American woman to reach distinction on the national level. She attended the New England Conservatory for her diploma in solo organ and a diploma for teaching piano. She also studied composition with the director of the conservatory, George W. Chadwick. In 1910, she moved to Atlanta to take on the role as head of the music department for Clark Atlanta University. However, Jim Crow laws were still very much alive. So, she and her family moved to Chicago and settled there. Overcoming abuse from her husband, she divorced in 1931 and became a single mother while still composing music and playing for silent movies on the side. Eventually, she moved in with pianist and composer Margaret Bonds (also her student) which led to connections with singer Marian Anderson and writer Langston Hughes. She has over 300 compositions to her name with more than 20 being devoted to the orchestral genre. Many awards were given to her compositions, including the Sonata in E Minor for piano; in 1932 it won first prize of the Rodman Wanamaker music contest – the benefactor of the Wanamaker organ at Macy's in Philadelphia. However, her Symphony in E Minor received overall honors and was the first orchestral piece by an African American woman to be played by a major orchestra in 1933, the Chicago Symphony.

The second movement of the Sonata in E minor, is marked as Andante; a slow walking movement that is reminiscent of the African American Spiritual "Steal Away." The main theme recurs several times and is separated by more elaborate sections of the movement. Rich harmonies are paired with the melody and gives the listener a heartfelt sentiment.

-Program notes provided by Professor William A. Murphy

I Dream a World/I'll Make the Difference

"I Dream a World", was composed by the famous American composer and conductor André J. Thomas. In it he expressively captures the moving poem written by the African-American writer, Langston Hughes, about the future joys and freedom humanity can achieve with racism and avarice defeated. "I'll Make the Difference" was written as a song of hope for singers around the world by the beloved arranger of spirituals, Moses Hogan. It calls us all to be the one to make the difference in the world. Concert Choir used these two compositions by African-American composers in the Fall of 2020 to process the current events. The pieces called our singers to individual responsibility for being the change, the hope, the light, and the song we want to see in the world.

-Program notes provided by Dr. Greg Detweiler

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

October

- 2nd 7:30pm Oktoberfest @ Sawstone
- 5th 7:30pm Symphonic Winds Concert
- 13th 7:30pm Jazz Ensemble with Guest Artist Vardan Ovsepien
- 14th 7:30pm Concert Choir Concert
- 15th 6:00pm Jazz Ensemble with Guest Artist Vardan Ovsepien @ Sawstone
Brewing Co.
- 17th 3:00pm Jake Rodriguez, Senior Recital, Saxophone
- 17th 5:00pm Connor Robinette, Senior Recital, Saxophone
- 17th 7:00pm Robert Miller, Junior Recital, Trumpet
- 20th 7:30pm Dr. Eric Brown, Faculty Recital, Voice
- 21st 7:00pm Commercial Music Ensemble Concert @ Conference Center
- 25th 7:30pm Dr. Nathan Mensink & Dr. Russ Zokaites Joint Faculty Recital
- 26th 7:30pm Faculty Recital, Will Murphy, Piano Recital
- 27th 7:30pm Clarinet Ensemble Concert
- 28th 7:30pm Caleb Fouts, Senior Recital, Flute
- 29th 7:30pm Black Gospel Ensemble Concert
- 31st 3:00pm Percussion Ensemble Concert

November

- 1st 3:00pm-5:00pm Guest Artist Masterclass, Marlayna Maynard, Voice
- 1st 7:30pm Jazz Vocal Concert
- 2nd 7:30pm Guest Artist, Marlayna Maynard, Voice
- 4th 7:30pm Haley Bartee, Senior Recital, Clarinet
- 5th 7:30pm Faculty Recital, Ellen Mosley, Flute
- 7th-9th Choral Festival
- 10th 7:30pm MSU Artist Series / Music Brings Us All Together
- 11th 12:00-12:50pm Jazz Ensemble Performance @ ADUC
- 11th 7:30pm Sarah Hamilton, Senior Recital, Voice
- 12th 5:00pm Dakota Nehus, Senior Recital, Voice
- 12th 7:30pm Anna-Wray Grayson, Senior Recital, Voice
- 14th 3:00pm Cameron Fraley, Senior Recital, Saxophone
- 14th 5:00pm Josh Herrera, Senior Recital, Saxophone
- 14th 7:00pm Alec Yeaste, Senior Recital, Trombone
- 15th 7:30pm Trombone Studio Recital
- 16th 7:30pm Kallie Kennon, Junior Recital, Clarinet
- 17th 7:30pm Jazz Ensemble Concert
- 18th 7:30pm Concert Band Concert
- 19th 7:30pm Nick Brewer, Senior Recital, Tuba
- 20th 7:30pm Jimmie Hafley, Senior Recital, Saxophone
- 21st 1:00pm Reagan Cox, Senior Recital, Piano
- 21st 3:00pm Isaiah Florence, Senior Recital, Piano
- 21st 5:00pm Andrew Blanke, Senior Recital, Trumpet
- 21st 7:00pm Everett Quiggins, Senior Recital, Voice
- 23rd 7:30pm Hannah Newman, Senior Recital, Voice
- 29th 5:00pm Trillium Back, Junior Recital, Flute
- 30th 7:30pm Concert Choir Christmas Concert